

LONE STOWAWAY HOLDS UP CREW AND ROBS SHIP

Ernest Schiller Binds Captain of Matoppe In His Cabin, Threatens to Blow Up Boat and Rifles Ship's Safe and Papers

ALL OUTSIDE THREE MILE LIMIT

Had Hoped to Find At Least Two Thousand Pounds, English Money, But Succeeds in Locating Only About Thirty Pounds

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
LEWES, Del., March 30.—How one German stowaway held up the captain and 56 members of the crew of the British steamer Matoppe, compelling them at the point of a pistol to change the course of the vessel and land him at the Delaware breakwater after he had rifled the ship's safe and taken their valuables, was told here tonight by Captain Bergner, master of the Matoppe.

The stowaway, who said his name was Ernest Schiller, and that he had lived in Holoken, N. J. for the last eight months, is in jail here awaiting the arrival of the U. S. District Attorney from Wilmington, Del., and the British consul general from Philadelphia.

The holdup took place outside the three mile limit and federal authorities here say that this government, under the circumstances, probably will have nothing to do with the matter. Schiller, they say, will be returned to the Matoppe and turned over to British officials at St. Lucia, where the vessel will stop for coal.

The Matoppe sailed from New York yesterday for Valdivostok with a cargo consisting chiefly of barbed wire and farm implements. She passed Sunday Hook at 6 o'clock in the evening and two hours later upon entering his cabin, Captain Bergner says he was confronted by a young man with a revolver in each hand. "Hands up and not a sound if you value your life," was the command that greeted him.

The captain was bound hand and foot and locked in his cabin, promising under penalty of death, not to raise an alarm. Then cautiously making his way to the wireless cabin, the stowaway, who is about 25 years old, put the instruments out of commission, and threw the ship's guns, consisting of six rifles, overboard. He then returned to the captain's cabin, rifled the safe and destroyed many important papers.

He had expected, he told Captain Bergner, to find at least \$2,000 in English money aboard the Matoppe, but in this his hopes were shattered. There was not a penny in the safe. Later, however, Schiller compelled the captain and the first officer to hand over pocketbooks containing a total of about \$30.

With Captain Bergner still a prisoner in his own cabin, Schiller proceeded to round up the crew of 56 men, all but a few of whom were in their bunks. He lined all hands up in one end of the ship and threatened to blow everybody to pieces with bombs he said he had placed in different parts of the vessel if anyone made a move.

At four o'clock this morning Schiller released Captain Bergner and still gripping a revolver in each hand, ordered the steamer headed toward shore. Other officers and members of the crew were likewise ordered to their places and told to put on all speed for the Delaware breakwater.

AERIAL ACTIVITY IS REPORTED AND EIGHT GERMAN CRAFT FALL

FORMER CONVICT DYING WANTS LEG RETURNED

SALEM, Ore., March 30.—Warden John W. Minto of the Oregon state penitentiary said tonight that if possible he wants to comply with the dying wish of Franklin S. Ingram of San Jose, Cal., by sending to San Jose one of Ingram's legs which is buried somewhere near the Oregon prison. Ingram, a convict at the time, was shot in the leg in the memorable Tracy-Merrill escape from the penitentiary in June, 1902, while assisting the guards, and the limb was amputated. The warden has not yet found the spot where the leg is buried.

START PROBE OF WRECK OF N. Y. C. TRAINS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 30.—Investigation into the wreck of three New York Central trains at Amherst, Ohio, which took a toll of at least twenty-eight lives—the exact number may never be known—and brought injury to more than forty others, several of whom probably will not recover, got under way today.

With a fierce controversy raging among railroad employees as to who was responsible for the accident, representatives of the state of Ohio and of the federal government were told by officials of the New York Central lines that the railroad officials would not conduct a separate formal inquiry on their own part. They asserted the best interests of all concerned would be best served by one investigation on the part of the representatives of the Ohio Utilities Commission and of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The railroad officials would give every help, they said, to make the investigation complete and the railroad would abide by the findings of these bodies, whatever they are.

The inspecting of the signal block apparatus at Amherst was the main work of the government experts today. Taking a special train the investigators went to the scene of the wreck and inspected it, though hurriedly. The controversy among railroad employees centered about A. H. Ernst, 25, towerman at Amherst, and Herman Hess, 36, veteran engineer, whose train rammed into the first section of train No. 85, causing the deaths of nearly all of those killed.

Ernst vehemently denies that he was asleep on duty, or that he was in such condition from loss of sleep that he was in any way incapacitated.

"If anyone is trying to fasten the blame in the affair on me I shall make affidavits to what I know of signal failures in the past on this and other roads," Hess repeated his former statement that he was not given any signal, but did not dispute Ernst's word that the signal might have failed to work.

Five German Planes Are Brought Down In Verdun Region, Two In Cham- pagne and Another West of Nouvion

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
Great aerial activity is reported in the latest official communication issued by the French war office. Five German aeroplanes were brought down in the region of Verdun, two in the Champagne district and one west of Nouvion, in the Somme district.

The French machines were hit many times but all the French pilots, the war office says, returned safely.

Heavy German attacks were delivered about Daumont. Liquid flames were employed in these assaults, but the Germans were repulsed with considerable losses.

West of the Meuse, where much fighting has taken place recently, the infantry actions ceased temporarily, but the bombardment of the artillery continued in the region of Malancourt.

Fighting is still going on between French, British and Germans along the British end of the French line, particularly near St. Etienne, where German grenade throwers succeeded in reaching a portion of a mine center held by the British. Near Baesingha, the British put down an attempted attack by the Germans.

Strong forces of Austrians and Italians are aligned against each other in the Gorizia sector of the Austro-Italian front. On the heights of Sella spirited fighting is taking place for the possession of trenches. Elsewhere along the front the artillery duels continue.

Berlin says the big offensive of the Russians in the region of Pustaya has ceased and that the Russians also have given up their attacks around Lake Narocz. Artillery duels, however, are going on around Jacobstadt and to the north of Ditzky.

Great Britain has put in effect an order-in-council under which neither a vessel nor her cargo is immune from capture for a breach of the blockade on the sole ground that the vessel at the moment is on her way to a non-blockaded port.

LAST REVIEW OF PREPAREDNESS PLANS IS GIVEN

Secretary Daniels Is Last Witness to Be Heard Be- fore House Naval Commit- tee Begins Framing Its Proposed Bill

CRITICISM IS FORESHADOWED

Administration of Navy De- partment Likely to Be Attacked Today By Mem- bers Who Allowed Daniels to Proceed Yesterday

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
WASHINGTON, March 30.—A final review of the administration's preparedness plans for the navy was given the house naval committee today by Secretary Daniels who will be the last witness heard before the committee begins framing its bill.

The secretary added in several respects to the program he had mapped out in estimates previously submitted to the committee. He urged the establishment of a government plant to manufacture naval projectiles; asked for about 15,000 additional men instead of 10,000 and proposed that civilian educators be placed at the head of the non-military departments of the Naval Academy.

Requesting that all provisions for air service be stricken out of the five year building program, Mr. Daniels urged an appropriation of \$2,000,000 to air craft this year. He explained that there was no way of determining what expenses would be necessary in the future.

Criticism of Secretary Daniels' administration of the department was shadowed by the course of certain committee members in examining previous witnesses, probably will materialize tomorrow. The secretary was always allowed to proceed without interruption today, taking up the items on the program one by one. He will conclude his statement tomorrow and be questioned by the committee.

Questions of the construction of battleships versus battle cruisers, of the size and speed of future submarines and other subjects most debated during the prolonged hearing, were not reported. Mr. Daniels' statements outside of these relating to personnel, had to do almost wholly with industrial problems of the service.

An outline of the department's plan for building up an adequate reserve force for the navy was presented by the secretary. It provides for five classes of reservists. The first to be known as the fleet reserve, would be composed of former officers and enlisted men; the second or naval reserve, of officers and men of the sea-going profession for service on fighting ships in war; the third or naval auxiliary reserve of shipmasters and seamen enrolled for war time duty on the auxiliary fleets; the fourth, or naval coast defense reserve, of residents on or near the coast capable of serving aboard mining craft, patrol vessels, torpedo boats, aircraft and the like for duty on the coast and in their respective districts and the fifth, or volunteer naval reserve of men who would have no duty in peace times, but as owners of yachts, power boats, or other craft, could render efficient aid in war times.

Secretary Daniels urged the committee to report favorably the armor plate factory bill which recently passed the senate and which will be taken up next Tuesday. He laid stress on the necessity in his opinion of providing means for establishing a fair price for armor or other material needed by the navy through equipping government plants to produce whatever could not be obtained at a satisfactory figure by contract.

VILLA WIPES OUT GUERRERO GARRISON, THEN MOVES ON TOWARD AMERICAN TROOPS

COLUMBUS ALARMED AT TALE VILLA RETURNING

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
COLUMBUS, N. M., March 30.—Two stories spread broadcast through Columbus tonight caused the credulous to fear that Villa was about to make a second raid on the community.

One story, which grew as it passed from month to month, was based on a suggestion made by Juan Fayela, a Mexican ranch hand, employed by Mayor H. C. Hoover, who is said to have predicted the raid on this town March 9. Fayela asserted that he believed that the bandit chieftain with a small part of his band had doubled on his trail and was now in the vicinity of Santa Maria, in the Guzman district, about sixty-five miles south of the border.

Close questioning by both military and civil authorities, however, elicited the fact that his belief was based on a newspaper story that Villa had turned to the north. Military authorities discredited the story.

On the heels of this story, a ranchman, whose name was not made public, reported to Major W. R. Sample, commander, that he believed the actions of a Mexican family living about two miles west of the town to be suspicious. He said that the lights in the windows on the south side of the house have been flashed in a way that might indicate they were signals.

However, despite repeated assurances by military authorities that last reports indicated that Villa was flying before American cavalrymen into the heart of the Guerrero district, knots of armed men gathered in the street here tonight and speculated as to the possibility of a second raid on the town.

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After Killing 172 Men In Guerrero Garrison, Ban- dit Moves Northward With U. S. Expedition Closing In On Him

MUST SOON FACE HIS PURSUERS

Disposition of Troops Is Such Villa Cannot Easily Escape Without Fighting Americans Or De Facto Government Soldiers

SAN ANTONIO, March 30.—After killing every one of the one hundred and seventy-two men in the garrison, at Guerrero, Francisco Villa moved northward yesterday and now is somewhere near the head water of the Santa Maria river, according to unofficial information secured by General Funston tonight. At the head of a considerable force, Villa was reported to be on the Santa Geronimo ranch or the Quemado ranch and troops of both the United States and Mexico were believed to be closing in on him.

This information was regarded by General Funston and his staff as probably correct. If correct, it appeared probable that very soon Villa either will have to face his pursuers in fight or make another break through the tightening line of troops.

Whether his assault on the garrison at Guerrero was the same engagement reported by Gen. Pershing was not known, but it was considered likely since the action reported by General Pershing occurred March 27 somewhere in that region.

General Pershing has been advised of the reports as to Villa's location and it is known that the disposition of his troops and those of the Mexican government are such that Villa cannot easily escape without a fight. American troops are converging in columns from the north and it was indicated that part of them had gone so far south that they would be able to join with the Carranza forces in preventing his escape in that direction.

Where Villa is tonight remained unknown to General Funston, but General Pershing reported during the day that on Monday he was defeated near Guerrero. After the fight with Carranza's soldiers at the edge of the mountainous district south of Namiquipa, Villa was known to be making his way south and General Pershing's cavalry resumed their unrelenting ride on his trail, notwithstanding it may lead them into the dangerous passes of mountains of the region.

General Funston delayed using the northwestern railway today for the shipment of supplies to the troops in Mexico pending a conference of General Gaviarra, commander of Mexican troops at Juarez, General Bell, post commander at El Paso, and Andres Garcia, Mexican consul at El Paso.

It is expected that shipments over that route will begin tomorrow but there was a disposition at army headquarters today to move cautiously. The failure of Carranza to give permission to guard the supplies was a sharp disappointment and a surprise to American army men and it was believed that even yet some arrangement might be made whereby supplies entering Mexico might be safeguarded.

LITERACY TEST REMAINS; BILL PASSES HOUSE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
WASHINGTON, March 30.—The Burnett immigration bill, with its literacy test and Asiatic exclusion provision unchanged, passed the house today by a vote of 308 to 87. It now goes to the senate, where favorable action is regarded as assured.

The literacy test, about which the fight against the bill had centered, was sustained, 284 to 107. This provision has been the cause of vetoes of similar immigration bills by Presidents Cleveland, Taft and Wilson.

The house passed the bill over the Cleveland veto, but it failed in the senate. Motions to override the veto of President Taft and Wilson were lost in the house by narrow margins. Representative Burnett, chairman of the immigration committee, predicted tonight that there was sufficient strength to repass the bill in the event of another veto. The president has not indicated his purpose to the house leaders.

Both record votes—on the literacy test and on the passage of the bill—were without regard to party lines. Majority Leader Kitchin voted for the literacy test and for the bill. Minority Leader Mann voted against the literacy test and then for the bill.

During the debate today the Humphrey reciprocal exclusion amendment, adopted Tuesday, aimed at retaliation upon British Columbia because of its exclusion of unskilled labor from this and other foreign countries, was modified upon discovery that it operated against immigration from Russia. It was changed so as to make it applicable only to a "contiguous" foreign country.

FIRST SUPPLY TRAIN MAY GO FORWARD TODAY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
WASHINGTON, March 30.—General Carranza's agreement for "commercial" use of the Mexico Northwestern railroad for transportation of supplies to the American expedition hunting Villa will be given a fair trial, and in the meantime the United States will press for an extension of further definition of the arrangement.

General Funston has been instructed to proceed with shipments to General Pershing's columns under such conditions as the Mexican de facto authorities prescribe, and determination to seek a more satisfactory understanding will not be carried out unless it is found impracticable to transport completely and satisfactorily necessary supplies to the restrictions imposed. Reports to the war department tonight showed that General Funston was preparing to tender his first consignment to the railroad and it is expected that it will be done tomorrow.

Doubt regarding the adequacy of Carranza's concessions is expressed freely in official quarters. Secretary Lansing, like Secretary Baker, however, said tonight that it remained to be seen what results would be secured.

Secretary Baker authorized denial of reports that General Funston had evinced irritation at the authorities for failure to make a more comprehensive and definite arrangement for the use of the railways. While officials realized that army officers on the border may be restive over the delay in diplomatic negotiations, it was declared that no friction has resulted.

There were no important military developments reported in dispatches received here today.

CARRANZA APPROVES DECREE DISFRANCHISING ALL ENEMIES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
DOUGLAS, Ariz., March 30.—Venustiano Carranza, de facto president of Mexico, has notified General P. Elias Calles, military governor of Sonora, of his approval of a decree promulgated several weeks ago by Calles, disfranchising all "enemies of the government," according to Consul Ives G. Levelevier.

Under its provisions, even though amnesty were granted such persons, their vote and the right to hold office would be taken from them.

Considered more important, however, was a clause at the end of the proclamation, in which General Calles delegated to himself the legislative as well as executive authority of the state until such time as constitutional elections could be held and the state congress assembled. The recognition of the decree by Carranza makes the governor a virtual dictator in Sonora.

It is rumored here, but not officially confirmed, that General Carranza also approved the decree of General Calles, issued about the same time, providing for the confiscation of the property of "enemies of the government," and its sale for the benefit of the state, or distribution among the people by the state agrarian committee.

The two decrees created a storm of protest, and General Carranza nullified them temporarily.

Villa Shot in Leg.

EL PASO, Texas, March 30.—General Gabriel Gaviarra, Carranza commander at Juarez said tonight that he had received a message from Madera, Mexico, which stated that Villa had been shot in the leg. General Gaviarra said the message came from what he considered a reliable source but that he had wired General Bertani at Madera for confirmation.

Aguirre Reaches Agua Prieta.

DOUGLAS, Ariz., March 30.—Lieut. Colonel Jesus Aguirre, at the head of a cavalry detachment of one thousand men, entered Agua Prieta today from the east. Aguirre's column was (Continued on Page Two)

Blindfolds Girl Cashier Then Leisurely Robs Bank

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
VENTURA, Cal., March 30.—No trace had been found tonight of the lone bandit who robbed the Ojai State bank at Nordhoff, sixteen miles north of here, of about \$21,500 at noon today after he had frightened Miss Mabel Isenberg, the assistant cashier and only other person in the bank at the time, into submission and blindfolded her.

The bandit chose a time when all other officers and employees of the bank were at lunch. He covered Miss Isenberg with a revolver and told her if she made any outcry he would kill her. The woman kept silent, and he then proceeded to blindfold her.

where he picked up a package of currency and a handful of gold coins. He then led his prisoner back into the banking room and seated her in a chair, with a command that she count five hundred before she remove the blindfold.

It was fifteen minutes after the bandit escaped before the alarm was given. Persons who rushed to the bank were unable to find any trace of the man, nor could they ascertain his method of flight.

Four posse, one headed by E. C. McMartin, sheriff of Ventura county, were searching the canyons and foothills in the vicinity of Nordhoff tonight, but they were unable to find the trail of the bandit.

Several messages regarding the Sussex and the other ships which have met disaster were received. With the exception of one dispatch from Ambassador Page at London none was made public.

PROGRESSIVE CALL

To the Progressive Electors of Maricopa County, Arizona:
A meeting of all progressives interested in selecting delegates to a state convention to be held at Bisbee on April 8 at which delegates to the progressive national convention to be held at Chicago on June 7, are to be selected, is hereby called at the Knights of Pythias Hall on Monday, April 3 at two p. m.

J. L. E. ALEXANDER
D. WIGHT B. HEARD
H. B. WILKINSON